THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Under the Revised MDM Scheme effected from September, 2004, assistance for meeting cooking cost @Re. 1/- per child per school day is provided as Central assistance. States are expected to supplement Central assistance with there own resource to ensure a hygienic mid-day meal having variety and wholesomeness. Many States are already contributing substantially. Central Government is constantly urging States to make adequate contribution, over and above the Central assistance.

UGC grant to universities and colleges In Punjab

1387. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any grant has been received by the universities and colleges in Punjab State from the UGC;

(b) the details of the criteria for receiving such grants; and

(c) the number of degree colleges which are not in receipt of UGC grants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) University Grants Commission provides financial assistance to eligible universities and colleges which are recognized under Section 2 (f) and 12 (B) of the UGC Act, 1956 as per guidelines on various schemes.

(c) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission, there are 3 colleges of Punjab State which have not been included under Section 12 (B) of the UGC Act and as such these colleges are not fit to receive UGC grant.

Computer education in Uttaranchai

1388. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to extend financial assistance to the State of Uttaranchai for speeding computer education in schools;

(b) if so, the details thereof with amounts of financial assistance released during the last three years, year-wise and district-wise, and

(c) the schools in Uttaranchal which have been earmarked for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Under "ICT @ Schools" Scheme, financial assistance is provided to State/UTs on the basis of the Computer Education Plans received from them. The scheme was started in December, 2004. During 2004-05, there was no release to Uttaranchal State. An amount of Rs. 150.75 lakh was sanctioned for imparting Computer Education in 25 schools in Uttaranchal State during 2005-2006. Out of this, an amount of Rs. 75.00 lakh has been released as the first instalment. The amount is not released district-wise, but is released to the State as a whole.

Funds for computer literacy

1389. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allotted for computer literacy in rural areas during the last two years, State-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that the funds allocated with a specific purpose are not being utilized by the concerned departments;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the reasons therefor, and

(e) the present level of computer literacy programme being implemented in each State as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) The Department of Secondary and Higher Education has launched the scheme "Information and Communication Technology @ Schools" in December, 2004 for promoting Computer Literacy in Government and Government Aided Secondary & Senior Secondary Schools in the country. Under the scheme, no specific allocation is being made for rural areas. Details of funds sanctioned under the scheme to the States/UTs during the last two years are given in the enclosed Statement (See below).

(b) to (d) No such report of non-utilisation of funds has been received in the Ministry.